

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for custom query generation implemented in a computer-readable medium and processed by a computer, comprising:

receiving, by the computer, a query within a segmentation tool, wherein the query is directed to one or more data sources that are not mapped in the segmentation tool, and wherein metadata and data elements of data tables associated with the one or more data sources are unknown to the segmentation tool, unavailable, and unrecognized by query interfaces used by the segmentation tool, and wherein the query is received via an option of the segmentation tool that permits a custom query that is the query to process via a custom query interface even when the metadata is not loaded in the segmentation tool;

receiving, by the computer, a key selection and a table selection for the query, wherein the key and table selections are associated with data elements of a customer hierarchy that is mapped within the segmentation tool to different data sources;

modifying, by the computer, the query using the key and table selections to link results of the query to selective data elements of the customer hierarchy associated with the different data sources, wherein the query is modified before the query is modified as the custom query, and the query modified before the query is executed as the custom query; and

generating, by the computer, the a custom query based on the query and the modifications, wherein when the custom query is executed within the segmentation tool a customer segment for a marketing campaign is generated by querying the unmapped data sources with the query to get the results and then by querying the mapped and different data sources with the modifications, the modifications use the key and table selections, to acquire the selective data elements from the customer hierarchy in order to produce the customer segment.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein receiving the query further includes importing a file that includes at least a portion of the query into a segmentation query-build interface.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the receiving the query further includes interactively receiving at least some portions of the query from a user interacting with a segmentation query-build interface.
4. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the receiving the query further includes receiving at least a portion of the query from a paste operation into a segmentation query-build interface.
5. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising associating a unique identifier with the custom query, wherein the unique identifier is used to save and recall the custom query for subsequent use.
6. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising receiving a command to execute the custom query from within the segmentation tool.
7. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising mapping data elements associated with the custom query to the segmentation tool for subsequent uses.
8. (Currently Amended) A custom query for segmentation system, comprising:
a segmentation tool to generate customer segmentations for marketing campaigns, the segmentation tool implemented in a computer-readable medium and processed by a computer;
and
a custom query interface integrated into the segmentation tool and implemented in a computer-readable medium and processed by the computer;
wherein the custom query interface generates custom queries to tables and data elements which are not mapped in the segmentation tool, and wherein the custom queries execute from the segmentation tool via an option of the segmentation tool and generate the customer segmentations defined by results of the custom queries by linking the results of the custom queries to selective mapped elements and tables included in the segmentation tool in order to generate the custom segmentations, wherein the custom queries provide the linking to the results

within the custom queries before the custom queries are executed and the custom queries are created from queries, the queries are used to create the custom queries before being executed, and wherein the tables and the data elements that are not mapped include metadata unknown to the segmentation tool and that are accessible via query interfaces unrecognized by and unavailable to the segmentation tool, and wherein the data elements are not displayed and selectable via the segmentation tool, and wherein metadata associated with the tables and data elements, which are not mapped in the segmentation tool, is not loaded or known to the segmentation tool.

9. (Original) The custom query for segmentation system of claim 8 wherein the segmentation tool includes a query selection interface having at least two options, a first option for selecting queries associated with mapped tables, and a second option for selecting the custom query interface for generating the custom queries.
10. (Original) The custom query for segmentation system of claim 8 wherein the custom queries are written in SQL syntax.
11. (Original) The custom query for segmentation system of claim 8 wherein the custom query interface receives at least a portion of the custom queries through an interactive session with a user.
12. (Original) The custom query for segmentation system of claim 8 wherein the custom query interface receives at least a portion of the custom queries by importing files into the custom query interface.
13. (Original) The custom query for segmentation system of claim 8 wherein the custom query interface includes options to save and reuse the generated custom queries.

14. (Original) The custom query for segmentation system of claim 8 wherein the custom query interface includes an option that displays documentation and other metadata about the custom queries.

15.-21. (Canceled)